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"KINGSTON CARES" AWARDED \$100,000 GRANT THROUGH DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that Family of Woodstock has been awarded a grant of \$100,000 by the Drug-Free Communities Program for the support of a coalition known as the Kingston Cares Collaborative. The grant was awarded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy after a highly rigorous review process.

"The competition for these grants is very intense," said Hinchey. "The selection of the Kingston Cares Collaborative, led by Family of Woodstock, testifies to the broad-based commitment of this community to reducing drug use among our young people."

The Kingston Cares Collaborative was created when Family of Woodstock, Inc. received state funding for a pilot prevention project. Kingston Cares incorporates a cross section of city organizations that have developed youth substance abuse prevention goals. Its objective is to prevent and reduce substance abuse through collaborative, science-based initiatives geared at improving family and community life in Kingston.

This federal grant will be used to implement parenting education and youth development initiatives in five sites, each targeting high-risk populations. Collaboration will occur among community service agencies, the Kingston Housing Authority, local religious organizations and others.

The Drug-Free Communities Program provides grants of up to \$100,000 to community organizations that serve as catalysts for citizen participation in local drug prevention efforts. This year's competitive review process selected 157 awardees out of 384 applicants from 50 states and the District of Columbia.